

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 04825 290921Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-07 SSM-03 /075 W
-----130826 291049Z /17

R 290907Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4176
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4825

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOPN, PINT, SY
SUBJECT: SYRIAN PRESS POLICY FOR COMING PERIOD

1. LOCAL AP STRINGER TOLD EMBOFF JULY 28 THAT EARLIER IN WEEK HE HAS HAD MEETING WITH MININFO ISKANDER AHMED REGARDING SYRIAN PRESS POLICY FOR COMING PERIOD. AHMED TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD MET WITH PRESIDENT ASSAD AND ASSAD HAD DECIDED THAT SYRIA'S "DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE" SHOULD CONTINUE FOR COMING PERIOD. ASSAD HAD SUGGESTED TO AHMED THAT MORE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS BE INVITED TO SYRIA AND THAT SYRIANS CONTINUE TO REFLECT AN INTERNATIONAL POSITION OF DESIRING PEACE AND BEING WILLING AND READY TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH PRESIDENT CARTER IN EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

2. AT SAME TIME ASSAD TOLD AHMED THAT SYRIA'S INTERNAL PRESS EDITORIALS SHOULD REFLECT SOME SKEPTICISM AND SUSPICION REGARDING AMERICAN ROLE AND REAL DESIRE OF EITHER US OR ISRAEL TO OBTAIN PEACE SETTLEMENT. THIS WOULD ASSIST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 04825 290921Z

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, AHMED SAID, IN PRESENTING SYRIA'S OFFICIAL POSITION ABROAD (AP STRINGER ALSO NOTED SUCH A POSITION WOULD HELP PROTECT ASSAD INTERNALLY). AHMED TOLD STRINGER THAT SYRIAN EDITORIALS IN THIS VEIN INTENDED FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION SHOULD NOT BE REPORTED INTERNATIONALLY BY WIRE SERVICE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE REPORT, AS MANY FROM THIS SOURCE, CONTAINS A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PERSONAL GLOSS, IT NONETHELESS SEEMS PLAUSIBLE AS INDICATOR OF BROAD LINES OF SYRIAN PRESS POLICY. WE NOTE THAT IN AT LEAST ONE RECENT ISSUE, US STATEMENTS OPPOSING LATEST ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ACTION SYRIAN RADIO AND PRESS HAVE GIVEN STORY TOP BILLING AND PORTRAYED ACTION FAVORABLY.
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC04825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770272-0448
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977076/aaaaaekk.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d933d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1868132
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN PRESS POLICY FOR COMING PERIOD
TAGS: SOPN, PINT, PDEV, SY, IS, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d933d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009